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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/647,964	01/08/2001	Kazuyuki Sakoda	09812.0511-00000	7471
22852	7590	09/21/2006	EXAMINER	
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER LLP 901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413			NGUYEN, TOAN D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2616	

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No.

09/647,964

Applicant(s)
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SAKODA ET AL.

**Examiner**

Toan D. Nguyen

<b>Art Unit</b>
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2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 July 2004.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 and 25-39 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 25-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 16 and 17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 October 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/6/00, 5/17/02.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application  
 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Specification***

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

page 12 line 20, "Fig. 2" should be --- Fig. 5 ---.

page 12 line 21 to page 13 line 1 is repeated on page 15 lines 14-19.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Objections***

2. Claims 1-17, and 25-39 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 1 line 17, it is suggested to change "a server apparatus" to --- said server apparatus ---. Similar problems exist in claim 9 line 4, and claim 33 line 4.

In claim 1 line 18, it is suggested to change "a request signal" to --- said request signal ---. Similar problems exist in claim 2 line 6, claim 10 line 4, and claim 25 line 17.

In claim 2 line 1, it is suggested to change "An" to --- The ---. Similar problems exist in claims 3-8, 10-17, 26-32, and 34-39.

In claim 2 line 10, it is suggested to change "a communication line" to --- said communication line ---. Similar problem exists in claim 26 line 8.

In claim 3 line 4, it is suggested to change "a period of time" to --- said period of time ---.

In claim 10 line 4, it is suggested to change "a request signal" to --- said request signal ---.

In claim 13 line 3, it is suggested to change "a signal" to --- said signal ---.

In claim 16 line 3, it is suggested to change "a period of time" to --- said period of time ---.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

3. Claims 1-8, 14-16, 25-32, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1 lines 2-3, it is unclear as to what is meant by "demand from a terminal apparatus from a server apparatus to the terminal apparatus".

Claim 4 recites the limitation "said estimated point of time" in line 7. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 4 recites the limitation "the estimated point of time" in line 9. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 14 recites the limitation "said communication line" in line 6. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 15 recites the limitation "the traffic load" in line 7. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 16 recites the limitation "the measured period of time" in line 17. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

In claim 25 lines 2-4, and lines 6-8, they are unclear as to what they meant by "a request from a terminal apparatus from a server apparatus to the terminal apparatus".

Claim 28 recites the limitation "the estimated point of time" in line 5 and line 7.

There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 37 recites the limitation "the user" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 37 recites the limitation "the traffic load of the communication line" in lines 4-5. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 25-26, 30, and 33-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Eng et al. (US 5,751,708).

For claim 25, Eng et al. disclose access method for broadband and narrowband networks, comprising:

said information distribution method for transmitting information based on a request from a terminal apparatus (figure 1, references 10, 20, and 30) from a server apparatus (figure 1A, reference 101) to the terminal apparatus, comprising the steps of:

having said terminal apparatus (figure 1, references 10, 20, and 30) generates a request signal requesting distribution of desired information (col. 4 lines 7-13);

transmitting said request signal from said terminal apparatus to said server (col. 4 lines 7-13);

having said server apparatus schedule a point of time for distribution based on a state of a communication line (col. 8 lines 32-34) to be used for the distribution of information in accordance with a request signal requesting information from said terminal apparatus (col. 5 lines 38-50);

distributing information for said request signal from said server apparatus to said terminal apparatus at the scheduled point of time (col. 5 lines 38-50); and

having said terminal apparatus receive said information distributed from said server apparatus (col. 5 lines 38-50).

For claim 26, Eng et al. disclose wherein said request signal is a signal including time limit information indicating a time limit of distribution of said information (col. 5 lines 21-28), and

said server apparatus schedules a point of time for distribution of the information based on the time limit information of said request signal (col. 5 lines 38-50) and a state of a communication line (col. 8 lines 32-34).

For claim 30, Eng et al. disclose wherein said terminal apparatus communicates with the server through a wireless transmission base station (col. 3 lines 45-53).

For claim 33, Eng et al. disclose access method for broadband and narrowband networks, comprising:

said data reception method for receiving distribution of information from a server apparatus (figure 1A, reference 101), comprising the steps of:

generating a request signal requesting distribution of desired information (col. 4 lines 7-13);

transmitting said requested information to said server(col. 4 lines 7-13); and  
receiving said information distributed by said server apparatus in a period of time determined by said server apparatus for said request signal (col. 5 lines 38-50).

For claim 34, Eng et al. disclose the step of generating a signal (col. 4 lines 7-13) including time limit information indicating a time limit for distribution of said information as said request signal (col. 5 lines 21-28).

For claim 35, Eng et al. disclose further comprising a step of generating a signal including distribution information designating a desired region or time band or both desired for distribution of information as said request signal (col. 5 lines 21-30).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

8. Claims 1-2, 5-14, 31-32, and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eng et al. (US 5,751,708) in view of Eggleston et al. (US 5,764,899).

As far as understood with respect to claims 1, 5, and 7-8, Eng et al. disclose access method for broadband and narrowband networks, comprising:

said server apparatus (figure 1A, reference 101) comprising:

a first transceiver (figure 1A, reference 102) for transmission to the terminal apparatus (col. 3 lines 48-58); and

a first controller (figure 1A, reference 101) for scheduling a point of time for distribution based on a state of a communication line (col. 8 lines 32-34) used for distribution of information in accordance with a request signal requesting information from the terminal apparatus (figure 1A, references 10, 20, and 30) received at said transceiver and controlling the system for distribution of information for said request signal to the terminal apparatus through the transceiver at the scheduled point of time (col. 5 lines 38-50), and

said terminal apparatus (figure 1, references 10, 20, and 30) comprising:

transmit-request (Xmt\_Req) (col. 5 lines 21-25) for communication with a server apparatus (figure 1A, reference 101); and

generating a request signal for requesting the distribution of desired information (col. 4 lines 7-13), controlling the system for transmission of the requested information to said server (figure 1A, reference 101) through said second transceiver (col. 4 lines 7-



13), and controlling the system for reception of said information distributed by said server apparatus in a period of time determined by said server apparatus with respect to said request signal (col. 5 lines 38-50).

However, Eng et al. do not expressly disclose a second transceiver, and a second controller. In an analogous art, Eggleston et al. disclose a second transceiver (figure 2, reference 202, col. 5 lines 28-31), and a second controller (figure 2, reference 207, col. 5 lines 20-21).

Eggleston et al. disclose wherein said first controller of said server apparatus calculates an amount of charge for distribution of information based on a length of the period of time until the time limit of distribution designated by the terminal apparatus and performs processing for charging the terminal apparatus based on the calculated amount of charge (col. 7 lines 11-16, and col. 15 lines 26-41 as set forth in claim 5), wherein said first controller of said server apparatus calculates an amount of charge for distribution of information based on an efficiency of use of a communication resource in communication between said terminal apparatus and said base station and performs processing for charging the terminal apparatus based on the calculated amount of charge (col. 7 lines 11-16, and col. 15 lines 26-41 as set forth in claim 7), and wherein said first controller of said server apparatus calculates cost information indicating communication costs based on a state of said communication line by region, by time band, or by time band for individual regions and controls the system for distribution of the calculated cost information to the terminal apparatus; said second controller of said terminal apparatus generates, as said request signal, a signal including distribution

information designating a desired region or time band or both desired for communication of information; and said server apparatus schedules the system for distribution of information to the designated region and time band based on the request signal (col. 14 lines 2-10 as set forth in claim 8).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the second transceiver, and the second controller, and would have applied Eggleston et al.'s case client 201 in Eng et al.'s end user device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Eggleston et al.'s method and apparatus for communicating an optimized reply in Eng et al.'s access method for broadband and narrowband networks with the motivation being to provide a transceiver (if using rf or infrared communications) and a modulator-demodulator (or modem) 202 to connect to a wireless or wireline communications network (col. 5 lines 28-31).

For claim 2, Eng et al. disclose wherein said second controller of said terminal apparatus generates a signal (col. 4 lines 7-13) including time limit information indicating a time limit for distribution of said information as a request signal (col. 5 lines 21-28), and said first controller of said server apparatus schedules the point of time for distribution of information based on the time limit for distribution designated by said terminal apparatus (col. 5 lines 38-50) and a state of a communications line (col. 8 lines 32-34).

For claim 6, Eng et al. disclose wherein said second transceiver of said terminal apparatus communicates with the server through a wireless transmission base station (col. 3 lines 45-53).

For claims 9, 11, 14, 31-32, and 36, Eng et al. disclose access method for broadband and narrowband networks, comprising:

said terminal apparatus (figure 1, references 10, 20, and 30) receiving distribution of information from a server apparatus (figure 1A, reference 101)(col. 5 lines 38-50); comprising:

transmit-request (Xmt\_Req) (col. 5 lines 21-25) for transmission to the server apparatus; and

generating a request signal for requesting the distribution of desired information, controlling the system for transmission of the requested information to said server (figure 1A, reference 101) (col. 4 lines 7-13), and controlling the system for reception of said information distributed by said server apparatus in a period of time determined by said server apparatus with respect to said request signal (col. 5 lines 38-50).

However, Eng et al. do not expressly disclose a transceiver, and a controller. In an analogous art, Eggleston et al. disclose a transceiver (figure 2, reference 202, col. 5 lines 28-31), and a controller (figure 2, reference 207, col. 5 lines 20-21).

Eggleston et al. disclose further comprising an interface for providing information to a user, and wherein the controller controls the system for provision of the point of time of distribution notified from the server apparatus to the user through the interface (col. 5 lines 25-26 as set forth in claim 11), wherein said controller controls the system for provision to the user through the interface of cost information based on a state of said communication line by region, by time band, or by time band for individual regions as received from the server apparatus (col. 7 lines 14-10 as set forth in claim 14),

wherein said first controller of said server apparatus calculates an amount of charge for distribution of information based on an efficiency of use of a communication resource in communication between said terminal apparatus and said base station and performs processing for charging the terminal apparatus based on the calculated amount of charge (col. 7 lines 11-16, and col. 15 lines 26-41 as set forth in claim 31), and wherein said server apparatus calculates cost information indicating communication costs based on a state of said communication line by region, by time band, or by time band for individual regions and controls the system for distribution of the calculated cost information to the terminal apparatus; said terminal apparatus generates a signal including distribution information designating a desired region or time band or both desired for communication of information; and said server apparatus schedules the system for distribution of information to the designated region and time band based on the request signal (col. 14 lines 2-10 as set forth in claim 32), and wherein said server apparatus calculates cost information indicating communication costs based on a state of said communication line by region, by time band, or by time band for individual regions and controls the system for distribution of the calculated cost information to the terminal apparatus; said terminal apparatus generates a signal including distribution information designating a desired region or time band or both desired for communication of information; and said server apparatus schedules the system for distribution of information to the designated region and time band based on the request signal (col. 14 lines 2-10 as set forth in claim 36).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the transceiver, and the controller, and would have applied Eggleston et al.'s case client 201 in Eng et al.'s end user device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Eggleston et al.'s method and apparatus for communicating an optimized reply in Eng et al.'s access method for broadband and narrowband networks with the motivation being to provide a transceiver (if using rf or infrared communications) and a modulator-demodulator (or modem) 202 to connect to a wireless or wireline communications network (col. 5 lines 28-31).

For claim 10, Eng et al. disclose wherein said controller generates a signal (col. 4 lines 7-13) including time limit information indicating a time limit for distribution of said information as a request signal (col. 5 lines 21-28).

For claim 12, Eng et al. disclose wherein said transceiver communicates with the server through a wireless transmission base station (col. 3 lines 45-56).

For claim 13, Eng et al. disclose wherein said controller generates, as said request signal, a signal including distribution information designating a desired region or time band or both desired for communication of information (col. 5 lines 21-30).

9. Claims 3-4, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eng et al. (US 5,751,708) in view of Eggleston et al. (US 5,764,899) further in view of Aitkenhead et al. (US 5,493,695).

For claims 3-4, and 15, Eng et al. in view of Eggleston et al. do not expressly disclose wherein the first controller of said server apparatus detects a traffic load of said communication line and distributes the information at a period of time when the traffic

load is small. In an analogous art, Aitkenhead et al. disclose wherein the first controller of said server apparatus detects a traffic load of said communication line and distributes the information at a period of time when the traffic load is small (col. 3 lines 52-54).

Aitkenhead et al. disclose wherein said terminal apparatus further comprises an interface for providing information to a user, and estimates a period time until the time limit of distribution and a point of time when the traffic load is small, controls the system for notification of said estimated point of time to said terminal apparatus, and schedules so as to distribute the information at the estimated point of time, and said second controller of said terminal apparatus controls the system for provision of the point of time of distribution notified from the server apparatus to the user through the interface (col. 5 lines 40-41 as set forth in claim 4), and wherein said terminal apparatus controls the system for provision to the user through the interface of a period of time until a time limit of distribution and time band where the traffic load of the communication line is small notified from the server apparatus (col. 5 lines 40-41 as set forth in claim 15).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the wherein the first controller of said server apparatus detects a traffic load of said communication line and distributes the information at a period of time when the traffic load is small, and would have applied Aitkenhead et al.'s traffic monitoring in Eng et al.'s end user device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Aitkenhead et al.'s trunking radio system with frequency diversity in Eng et al.'s access method for broadband and narrowband networks with the motivation being to provide

the traffic monitoring means 25 of the controller to determine that there is more than one channel available for allocation (col. 3 lines 50-52).

10. Claims 27-28, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eng et al. (US 5,751,708) in view of Aitkenheadi et al. (US 5,493,695).

For claims 27-28, and 37, Eng et al. do not expressly disclose wherein said server apparatus detects a traffic load of said communication line and schedules distribution of said information for a period of time where the traffic load is small. In an analogous art, Aitkenheadi et al. disclose wherein said server apparatus detects a traffic load of said communication line and schedules distribution of said information for a period of time where the traffic load is small (col. 3 lines 52-54).

Aitkenheadi et al. disclose wherein, when receiving said request signal, said server apparatus estimates a period of time until the time limit for distribution and a point of time where the traffic load is small, notifies the estimated point of time to said terminal apparatus, and distributes the information at the estimated point of time (col. 5 lines 40-41 as set forth in claim 28), and further comprising a step of providing the user with a period of time said time limit of distribution and point of time where the traffic load of the communication line is small as notified from said server apparatus (col. 5 lines 40-41 as set forth in claim 37).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the wherein the first controller of said server apparatus detects a traffic load of said communication line and distributes the information at a period of time when the traffic load is small, and would have applied Aitkenheadi et al.'s traffic monitoring in Eng et al.'s end user device. Therefore, it would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Aitkenheadi et al.'s trunking radio system with frequency diversity in Eng et al.'s access method for broadband and narrowband networks with the motivation being to provide the traffic monitoring means 25 of the controller to determine that there is more than one channel available for allocation (col. 3 lines 50-52).

11. Claim 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eng et al. (US 5,751,708) in view of Aitkenheadi et al. (US 5,493,695) further in view of Eggleston et al. (US 5,764,899).

For claim 29, Eng et al. in view of Aitkenheadi et al. do not expressly disclose wherein said server apparatus calculates an amount of charge for distribution of information based on a length of the period of time until the time limit of distribution designated by the terminal apparatus and performs processing for charging the terminal apparatus based on the calculated amount of charge. In an analogous art, Eggleston et al. disclose wherein said server apparatus calculates an amount of charge for distribution of information based on a length of the period of time until the time limit of distribution designated by the terminal apparatus and performs processing for charging the terminal apparatus based on the calculated amount of charge (col. 7 lines 11-16, and col. 15 lines 26-41).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the wherein said server apparatus calculates an amount of charge for distribution of information based on a length of the period of time until the time limit of distribution designated by the terminal apparatus and performs processing for charging the terminal apparatus based on the calculated



amount of charge, and would have applied Eggleston et al.'s case client 201 in Eng et al.'s end user device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Eggleston et al.'s method and apparatus for communicating an optimized reply in Eng et al.'s access method for broadband and narrowband networks with the motivation being to provide billing control (col. 15 lines 25-26).

12. Claims 38-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eng et al. (US 5,751,708) in view of Baptist et al. (US 5,465,392).

For claims 38-39, Eng et al. disclose further comprising the steps of:

receiving a scheduled point of time for distribution of information from said server apparatus (col. 5 lines 38-50) and

reception of information distributed from said server apparatus near the scheduled period of time of distribution based on the received scheduled point of time of distribution and an internally measured period of time (col. 5 lines 38-50).

However, Eng et al. do not expressly disclose controlling a power supply of a receiver. In an analogous art, Baptist et al. disclose controlling a power supply of a receiver (col. 3 lines 27-29, and col. 3 lines 39-42).

Baptist et al. disclose further comprising a step of controlling the power supply of the receiver to cut the supply of power to at least part of the circuits of the receiver when it finishes receiving the information distributed from said server apparatus (col. 3 lines 51-52 as set forth in claim 39).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the power supply of a receiver, and would have applied Baptist et al.'s mobile station 24 in Eng et al.'s end user device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Baptist et al.'s apparatus and method for operating a wireless local area network having power conservation in Eng et al.'s access method for broadband and narrowband networks with the motivation being to control the wireless transceiver 60 (col. 3 lines 40-44).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

13. Claims 16-17 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Toan D. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3153. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:00AM-4:30PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Huy Vu can be reached on 571-272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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